

SECRET - RYBAT

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

C/S Austria by 18 December '61

4. The Embassy was quite surprised about a HART cable from Washington which claimed that the U.S. correspondent of the Times, Marlene Hartney, had got hold of the secret U.S. loan to Austria story and that the Times would publish it on 18 December (which did not turn out to be the case). Fortunately, I had a luncheon planned with SCHUMER for 18 December and I offered my services to Berlin and Porter to try to influence SCHUMER along whatever lines they desired. They felt strongly that no story should be published which would contain any undue emphasis on the American aspects and that if it was necessary to publish anything at all, it should be within the framework of a larger story about the need to undermine the Austrian Army.

C/S Austria by 18 December '61

5. At the lunch with SCHUMER, I conveyed the above as my personal opinion. SCHUMER said that he did not publish the Hartney article in today's issue upon the urgent request of Foreign Minister Schuschnigg, but that in his talk with the Minister he reserved his judgment to publish the story in a day or two. Eventually I got him around to our position. Subsequently Berlin sent a cable requesting the Department on this issue.

C/S Austria by 18 December '61

3. I did considerable negotiating in the course of the day to secure for SCHUMER the first private appointment of any non-American journalist in Vienna with the new Ambassador. With Porter's support, we got it. This will get good publicity for Mr. Rickelshagen and should certainly help up my standing with SCHUMER.

C/S Austria by 18 December '61 (being discussed with DIRECTOR)

6. the Times on 19 December carried an excellent signed editorial by Chief Editor Schuschnigg on the subject of Austrian relations with Hungary. The peg for the editorial was the visit of the new Hungarian Press Attache Biro [] to Schuschnigg, while the contents were somewhat influenced by my lunch with Schuschnigg on 18 December. The editorial, which was picked up by the Embassy's daily summary of Austrian press, takes the position that Hungarian communism has been motivated by not necessarily improved. While Austria desires friendly relations with Hungary, based on present needs as well as on the century old community of interests and traditions, Hungary has to make certain contributions other than inviting rallies of Austrian officials to parties before one could consider the situation "normalized". The spirit of the article was in full accord with the SECRET position.

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